

Message Text

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51

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-11 ADP-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 L-03 EUR-25 RSR-01 /072 W
----- 036325

P R 111305 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5301

INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, TD

SUBJ: CIVAIR: EASTERN CARIBAIR ACQUISITION

REF: STATE 84918

1. ACTING DIRECTOR OF CIVIL AVIATION CROUCH IS EXPECTING DESIGNATION OF EASTERN VICE CARIBAIR. HE SAYS PROCEDURE WILL THEN BE FOR EASTERN TO APPLY FOR LICENSE FROM AIR TRANSPORT LICENSING AUTHORITY, WHICH WILL PUBLISH APPLICATION AND INVITE COMMENTS. HE SUGGESTED BOTH PANAM AND BWIA MIGHT FILE OBJECTIONS, WHICH HE PREDICTED COULD DELAY ISSUANCE OF EASTERN'S LICENSE FOR SOME MONTHS BUT PROBABLY WOULD NOT RESULT IN REFUSAL TO ISSUE. AS INDICATION OF HIS EXPECTATION THAT LICENSE WILL EVENTUALLY BE ISSUED, HE HAS QUIETLY AUTHORIZED EASTERN TO BEGIN REMODELING CARIBAIR OFFICE SPACE AT PIARCO AIRPORT TERMINAL.

2. PANAM MANAGER SAYS HE HAS ASKED HIS HEADQUARTERS FOR INSTRUCTIONS IN ANTICIPATION OF LICENSE APPLICATION. HEAD OF BWIA SAYS HIS BOARD HAS NOT DISCUSSED THIS ASPECT AND DECLINES TO COMMENT FURTHER. (IN 1968, BWIA OBJECTED TO CARIBAIR'S LICENSE APPLICATION.)

3. GOTT ITSELF IS AMONG CARIBAIR'S CREDITORS HERE. CROUCH SAYS HE DOUBTS THEY COULD COLLECT FROM EASTERN IN
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COURT BUT THEY WOULD STILL LIKE THEIR MONEY, AND AMOUNT INVOLVED (TT\$20,000) NOT VERY MUCH FOR COMPANY AS BIG AS EASTERN. BUT REPORTEDLY BARBADOS AND ANTIGUA WAIVING MUCH LARGER DEBTS, AND IT WOULD BE DELICATE FOR EASTERN TO PAY TRINIDAD AND NOT THE OTHERS. MANAGER OF MCCANN ERICKSON (TRINIDAD) LTD., WHICH GOT JUDGEMENT THAT CAUSED CARIBAIR TO SUSPEND SERVICES TO TRINIDAD, SAYS ITS LAWYERS ARE LOOKING INTO EASTERN' S SITUATION REGARDING ITS TT\$47,000 CREDIT TO CARIBAIR. HE REMARKED THAT EASTERN SHOULD TREAT CARIBAIR' S PRIVATE CREDITORS THE SAME AS IT TREATS GOTT. INTERNATIONAL AERADIO (CARIBBEAN) LTD. SAYS IT HAS WRITTEN OFF CARIBAIR' S TT\$146,000 DEBT IN TRINIDAD AND CONTINUED TO PROVIDE SERVICES TO CARIBAIR IN OTHER PARTS OF CARIBBEAN, BUT THAT IT WILL WANT TO DISCUSS SITUATION WITH EASTERN WHEN IT COMES HERE. OTHER CREDITOR, BEL AIR AIRPORT HOTEL (TT\$42,000), MERELY SAYS IT WOULD STILL LIKE TO GET ITS MONEY.
MARSHALL

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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